(d) and (e). Government of India, which has to absorb the foreign exchange risk has made available the earlier OECF loan for the first such project of REC at a rate of interest of 12% per annum repayable in 15 years including a moratorium period of 5 years.

Apart from the OECF loan, REC provides funds to State Electricity Boards and Cooperative Societies for implementation of various RE programmes under Cooperative, Dalit Bastis, Village Electrification and Pumpset Energisation. The lending for these programmes is based on varying rates of interest involving cross-subsidisation, as a result of which REC operates on very low margins. Moreover, the risk of recoveries of loans by REC is high as repayment period have a long spread without any effective guarantee for timely repayment.

Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project

2356. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total foreign assistance was made available for Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project in West Bengal;

(b) total cost of project as on January 1, 1990 and the revised estimate cost at present; and

(c) the name of the consultancy group attached to Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan have agreed to provide a total loan assistance of 35,728 Million yen (27,069 Million Yen for Unit 1 and 2 and 8659 Million Yen for unit 3) to finance the construction of Units 1, 2 and 3 (3x210 MW) of Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project.

(b) The Bakreshwar Project was sanctioned by the Planning Commission in July, 1993, at an estimated cost of Rs. 3052.53 crores with the project consisting of 5x210 MW units. The latest estimated costs for Units 1, 2 and 3 are Rs. 2754.55 crores and Rs. 911.32 crores respectively.

(c) M/s Development Consultants Ltd., Calcutta, India and M/s EPDC International, Japan, are, respectively, the Indian Consultants and the review consultants for Units 1, 2 and 3 of this Project.

Petroleum Gas Bottling Plants

2357. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has decided to set up four liquefied petroleum gas bottling plants in Southern States;

(b) if so, the total cost involved therein;

(c) the places where these plants are likely to be set up; and

(d) by what time the work on these plants are to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d). The details of the LPG bottling plants being set up by Indian Oil Corporation in the Southern States are as under. The project cost of these plants is estimated at about Rs. 163.55 crores.

State		Location	Date by which the work Started/will start
Andhra Pradesh	1.	Cuddapah	Aug., 1994
Andhra Pradesh	2.	Cherlapally (Secunderabad)	April, 1996
Kerala	3.	Quilon	Feb., 1995
Tamil Nadu	4.	Madras (Ennore)	30 months from Land Takeover/Board Approval.
Tamil Nadu	5.	Madurai	April, 1996
Tamil Nadu	6.	Trichi	Feb., 1994
Tamil Nadu	7.	Mayiladuthurai	July, 1996

Clearance to Power Project

2358. SHRI PINAKI MISRA :
SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of power projects pending with the Union Government for clearance, State-wise and Project-wise;

(b) the number out of them, are State-owned, Centrally-assisted and joint ventures;

(c) the number out of them proposed with foreign collaboration;

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared; and

(e) the reasons for the pendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c). Detailed Project Reports for 14 Private Sector Projects and 15 State and Central Sector projects have been received in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of Techno Economic Clearance. The details of these projects are given in the Statement enclosed.